

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

**1-13. (canceled)**

**14. (withdrawn - currently amended)** A method for preparing the polycarboxylic composition according to claim 23, wherein a said method comprising subjecting a monosaccharide composition ~~undergoes to~~ an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode.

**15. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said anode is based on a carbon material having a specific surface at least equal to  $0.10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ , preferably at least equal to  $0.20 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ .

**16. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said carbon material has a specific surface at least equal to  $0.25 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ .

**17. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said anode is selected from the group consisting of carbon felts and granular active charcoals.

**18. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said electrochemical oxidation treatment is carried out at a pH of between 10 to 14.

**19. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the pH is between 11.5 and 14.

**20. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the pH is between 12 and 13.5.

**21. (withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said electrochemical oxidation treatment is also carried out in the absence of sodium bromide.

**22. (cancelled)**

**23. (currently amended)** ~~The polycarboxylic composition as claimed in claim 22, comprising:~~ A polycarboxylic composition produced by subjecting a monosaccharide composition to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode, wherein said resultant polycarboxylic composition comprises:

- from 30 to 90% of one or more products selected from the group consisting of the dicarboxylic acids and their salts, and
  - from 3 to 59% of one or more products selected from the group consisting of the tricarboxylic acids and their salts,
- these percentages being expressed as dry weight with respect to the total dry weight of said composition.

**24. (currently amended)** ~~The polycarboxylic composition as claimed in claim 22, comprising:~~ A polycarboxylic composition produced by subjecting a monosaccharide composition to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode, wherein said resultant polycarboxylic composition comprises:

- from 30 to 90% of glucaric acid, in the free acid form and/or in the form of (a) salt(s), and
- from 3 to 50% of 2-carboxy-2,3,4-trihydroxypentanedioic acid, in the free acid form and/or in the form of (a) salt(s).

**25. (currently amended)** ~~The polycarboxylic composition as claimed in claim 22, comprising:~~ A polycarboxylic composition produced by subjecting a monosaccharide composition to an electrochemical oxidation treatment carried out in the absence of sodium hypochlorite and in the presence of a) an amine oxide and b) a carbon-based anode, wherein said resultant polycarboxylic

composition comprises: in total at least 90% of glucaric acid and of 2-carboxy-2,3,4-trihydroxypentanedioic acid, this percentage being expressed as total dry weight of said lproducts with respect to the total dry weight of said composition.

**26. (cancelled)**

**27. (withdrawn - currently amended)** ~~Product as~~ A product as a detergent and cleaning agent ~~detergents and cleaning agents~~ for the water treatment, metal treatment, plant treatment, ~~fibers~~ and fiber treatment, said product comprising the polycarboxylic composition of claim ~~22~~ 23.

**28-32. (cancelled)**

**33. (new)** A product as a hydraulic binder, adhesive, founding, paint or leather, said product comprising the polycarboxylic composition of claim 23.

**34. (new)** A food, pharmaceutical, or cosmetic composition comprising the polycarboxylic composition of claim 23.